

Emancipation Society.

OFFICES—65, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

9th January 1863.

b

My dear Sir:

I send you a copy of the Saturday Review which contains an article on the Emancipation Society's address to the clergy. Do not, however, mistake this, or any similar, ebullition for an expression of the real opinion of the English people on the Slavery question, or on the issues between the North and the South. The great meetings which have been held in London and various parts of the Country, during the last six weeks, to express sympathy with the anti-slavery policy of the American government, indicate what is the true state of public feeling on this side of the Atlantic. We have endured the misrepresentations of certain organs of our press too long; and we have now determined to endure them no longer. But always remember that from the beginning the best of our journals have ~~always~~ remained true to the anti-slavery cause — that the Star, Daily News, Westminster Review, Spectator, Nonconformist, British Standard, Oral, Birmingham Post, Manchester Examiner, Newcastle Chronicle, Caledonian Mercury, Belfast Whig and a host of other representatives of the fourth estate, have never departed from the

pure faith. The working classes, ^{also} have proved to be
sound to the core whenever their opinion has been
tested. Witness the noble demonstration of Manchester
operatives the other day, when three thousand ^{worth the name of} ~~these~~ ^{of these}
(many of whom were actual sufferers from the
cotton famine,) adopted by acclamation an address
to President Lincoln sympathizing with his proclamation.
A friend of mine who was present on the occasion
tells me that the heartiness and enthusiasm of the
working men was something glorious - that he
heard them say to one another that they would
rather remain unemployed for twenty years than
get cotton from the South at the expense of the
slave. Mr. Thompson has been in this part of
Lancashire lately, and the meetings he has addressed
have been attended with the same results. Our
experience in London has been equally satisfactory.
It would have done you good, if you had heard
Baptist Noel's speech; or attended the great meeting
of the working classes which we held on the 31st of
December - the end of freedom. Rowman Hall's
speech on this occasion was one of the best I ever
listened to. He stated, in the fairest manner, every
conceivable argument which had been urged in
favour of the Slave Confederacy or against the
policy of the Federal government; and then replied
to them coisectim, demolishing every sophistry and
gibbeting every falsehood, until the slaveocracy
had really not a ray left wherewith to conceal

the revolting defects of their odious cause.

The Emancipation Society includes, as you will have seen, some of the best men in the country, without distinction of sect or party. The name of John Stuart Mill - one of the greatest in England - stands at the head of the list. We are now arranging for a demonstration in Exeter Hall to take place on the 29th inst. Our friends in Manchester and Birmingham are organizing branch Societies in those ~~important~~ important towns; and applications for meetings and deputations are pouring in from all quarters. Our friend W. Webb who is doing such good service in the Advocate, and in this way more private but not less useful, tells me that Professor Cairnes' admirable work is about to pass into another edition. As a proof of how extensively it is read I may say that I have made two unsuccessful attempts to obtain it from Mudie's circulating library (the greatest in the world) where there is a large number of copies. The answer on both occasions was that every copy was in the hands of subscribers. Mr. Stowe's ~~very~~ eloquent and beautiful address to the women of England is exciting great interest, and cannot fail to do much good. It was published by Sampson Low and Co. on Wednesday in the form of a small volume; and it has ~~been~~ been reprinted entire in the columns of the Morning Star and the Daily News - a remarkable tribute to the popularity of Mr. Stowe in this country, as well as a proof of the earnest interest which these journals take in the good work. It could not have appeared at a more favourable moment for our friends than the Times, with a marvellous

fully which is often linked with malignity, published
an article pleading Biblical sanction for slavery,
and actually suggesting that it was perhaps a
religious duty on the part of the slave to refuse his
freedom even if it were offered to him! Nothing could
be more calculated to stir up the religious sentiment
of the country against the cause of which the Times
has made itself the principal champion. This is
another example of the manner in which the Devil
sometimes overreaches himself..

Very truly yours,
F. W. Chepson

William Lloyd Garrison Esq

(Private) I send you a copy of the Dial containing
an article which I have written on Mr. Stone's
"Reply."

G. W. Chepson,
London, Jan. 9, 1865.